

PRESS RELEASE

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**Declaration by the Presidency, on behalf of the European Union,
on action taken by the OAS and on the appointment of Mr Latorre
as permanent secretary of the OAS in Peru**

The European Union is following the development of the situation in Peru since the Presidential elections with the greatest attention.

The Union fully supports the action taken by the OAS following the joint mission by Mr Axworthy, Chair of the General Assembly and Mr Gaviria, Secretary General, to promote the strengthening of democracy in Peru. The European Union calls for all the recommended reforms to be implemented within the timescale proposed by the high level mission.

The European Union particularly welcomes the appointment of Mr Eduardo Latorre, Minister for Foreign Relations of the Dominican Republic, as permanent secretary of the OAS in Peru. The European Union considers that the establishment on the spot of an ad hoc structure, directed by a well-known Latin American figure, will be an essential element in implementing the measures recommended by the OAS.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area align themselves with this declaration.